

NEBRASKA

WEATHER & CROPS

NEBRASKA
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

For Week Ending July 7, 1996

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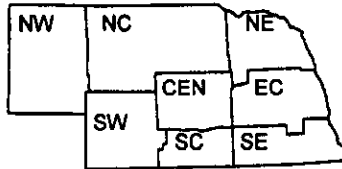
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Lincoln, NE 68501

National Agricultural Statistics Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
and U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin
National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
Institute of Agriculture
and Natural Resources-UN-L

WEATHER

Temperatures varied across the State from three to five degrees above normals in the west to two degrees below normals in the central portion. Precipitation was widespread with amounts ranging from traces to over three inches.

GENERAL

Wheat combines were moving through many south central and southeastern fields last week, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Hot, dry conditions hastened ripening and drydown of wheat and harvest was expected to move west. Late Sunday, July 7, severe storms brought hail, heavy rain, high winds and some tornado activity to parts of western, central and south central Nebraska. Hail damage to crops was reported in McPherson, Phelps, and Logan counties. Producer activities last week included spraying herbicides, cultivating row crops, irrigating crops, cutting alfalfa, grain marketing, and farm program sign up.

CROPS

Winter wheat condition rated 5% very poor, 14% poor, 46% fair, 32% good and 3% excellent. The crop continued to turn color at a rapid pace with 94% coloring as of Sunday. This is ahead of 86% last year, but slightly behind 96% for the five-year average. Crop ripening also moved at a rapid pace last week, but was still rated about seven days behind normal. Statewide, harvest was 12% complete compared to 6% last year and 27% for the five-year average. Winter wheat harvest was most advanced in the southeast and moving toward western fields. Early yields have varied, but the crop quality has been good.

CROPS (Cont.)

Corn condition last week rated 2% poor, 22% fair, 58% good, and 18% excellent. Irrigated corn rated 79% good to excellent while dryland corn rated 69% good to excellent. Crop growth continued to move at a rapid pace due to the hot, humid conditions. Some early planted fields in the south central and southeast had begun to tassel last week. Grasshopper and corn borer activity was noted in the eastern third of the state with the east central district appearing to be the heaviest.

Soybean condition rated 1% very poor, 1% poor, 24% fair, 64% good, and 10% excellent. Growth was good and cultivation activities were underway last week.

Sorghum condition rated 1% poor, 22% fair, 65% good, and 12% excellent.

Oats condition rated 1% very poor, 4% poor, 35% fair, 50% good, and 10% excellent with heading virtually complete.

Dry bean condition rated 6% poor, 27% fair, 54% good, and 13% excellent. Blooming had begun in some fields with 3% to date. None of the crop had bloomed at this time last year.

Alfalfa condition rated 1% very poor, 4% poor, 36% fair, 46% good, and 13% excellent. Second cutting activities were 17% complete as of Sunday. This compares with 14% last year and 23% for the average. Wild hay condition rated 3% poor, 26% fair, 63% good, and 8% excellent.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition rated 1% very poor, 3% poor, 32% fair, 57% good and 7% excellent. Some reports indicated that dry weather conditions were beginning to affect pasture conditions. Rain is needed to maintain growth.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF JULY 7, 1996	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Wheat Turning	87	85	95	95	99	100	97	100	94	74	86	96
% Wheat Ripe	1	5	1	5	42	51	52	78	32	4	19	53
% Wheat Harvested	0	0	0	0	8	16	16	44	12	0	6	27
% Alfalfa Second Cutting	5	9	3	17	15	18	45	45	17	n/a	14	23
% Dry Beans Blooming	0	15	n/a	n/a	n/a	14	5	n/a	3	n/a	0	n/a
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF JULY 5, 1996												
Days suitable	6.5	7.0	4.9	6.9	5.8	7.0	6.8	6.4	6.4	5.5	5.7	
Topsoil moisture - Very Short	8	0	0	0	0	0	3	25	5	0	1	
(Percent) - Short	49	46	23	56	27	64	47	43	43	24	9	
- Adequate	42	53	77	43	70	36	50	32	51	72	88	
- Surplus	1	1	0	1	3	0	0	0	1	4	2	
Subsoil moisture - Very Short	5	0	0	0	0	0	5	9	3	0	5	
(Percent) - Short	11	26	7	21	6	35	20	40	21	10	34	
- Adequate	84	74	93	76	94	65	75	51	76	87	60	
- Surplus	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	

n/a = not available.

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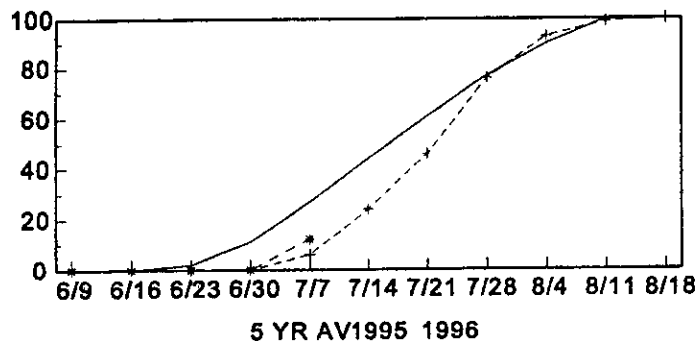
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WINTER WHEAT

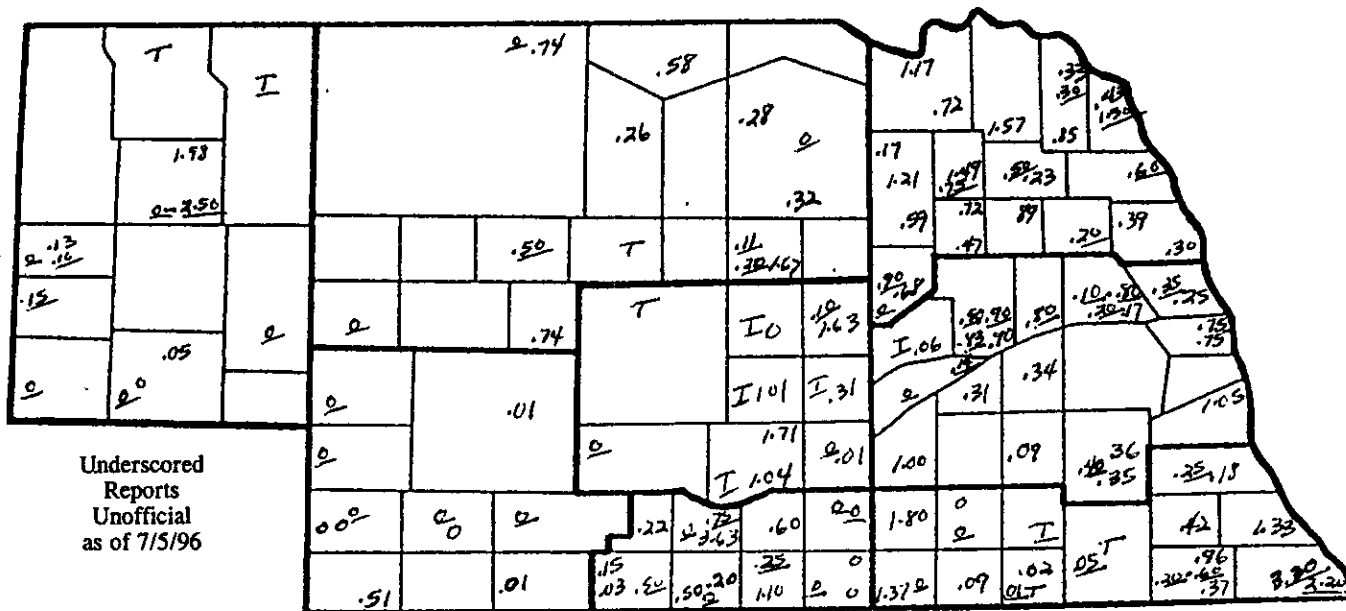
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PROGRESS AS OF SUNDAY

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JULY 6, 1996



PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - JULY 6, 1996

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.43	.57	.72	.71	.49	.09	.69	.55
Total since April 1	7.15	9.26	10.70	12.05	15.98	9.98	14.87	14.20
Normal since April 1	8.25	9.63	11.08	10.72	11.80	9.12	10.46	11.68
Total as % of normal	87%	96%	97%	112%	135%	109%	142%	122%

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION, WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JULY 6, 1996 GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JULY 7, 1996

Station	Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches	Last Week	Current	Normal
	Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	102	51	80	---	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	103	53	77	+5	.13	902	1076
	Sidney	---	---	---	---	---	824	999
NC	Valentine	98	51	76	+3	.74	---	---
	Arthur	---	---	---	---	---	828	1011
	O'Neill	---	---	---	---	---	865	1043
NE	Norfolk	90	59	74	0	.72	---	---
	Sioux City	92	55	73	-2	.43	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	909	1093
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	906	1097
CEN	West Point	---	---	---	---	---	972	1170
	Grand Island	91	62	77	+1	.01	---	---
	Ord	91	60	75	---	0	935	1126
	Kearney	---	---	---	---	---	1017	1216
EC	Lincoln	91	63	75	-2	.36	1081	1295
	Omaha	90	63	75	-1	.75	---	---
	Central City	---	---	---	---	---	1012	1210
SW	Mead	---	---	---	---	---	1045	1248
	Imperial	100	56	77	---	0	---	---
	North Platte	97	52	74	+2	.01	948	1137
SC	McCook	---	---	---	---	---	1003	1205
	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	1039	1249
	Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	---	1096	1305
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	1114	1322
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	1005	1205

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max. temp. + min. temp. divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD. For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day. GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 15.